

reforms the current program by increasing the subsidy levels to encourage higher participation at the buy-up coverage levels, alleviating the impact of natural disasters on producers' actual production history (APH), assigning 100 percent transitional yields (T-yield) for the newly acquired acreage and new crops, creates cost of production, rating methodologies, and livestock revenue insurance pilot projects, and restructuring the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) Board of Directors to better represent producers' interests.

During the 106th Congress, I am hopeful that the crop insurance reform will occur. Both Congress and the Administration, have made crop insurance their number one priority in agriculture. In fact, Secretary Glickman coined 1999 as the "year of the safety net." I look forward to working in a bipartisan manner with my colleagues in Congress to pass a comprehensive crop insurance reform bill. The Crop Insurance Improvement Act of 1999 is a step in that direction.

THE EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1999

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, it is for our impoverished urban communities that I am introducing the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999. This bill will empower low-income parents living in poverty-stricken areas to provide the best education possible for their children.

I am honored to introduce this education plan for our urban communities, which is embraced and co-authored by the Congressional Renewal Alliance. The Renewal Alliance is a coalition of representatives and senators committed to working with community leaders to find legislative proposals which facilitate local solutions in impoverished regions. This will lead to individual empowerment.

I have worked closely with my colleagues in the Renewal Alliance to craft a bill that provides educational alternatives in our inner cities, and provides relief for those parents who invest in their children.

The Educational Opportunities Act of 1999 adopts the principles of another bill I have introduced, H.R. 600, which provides up to a \$1,000 per-child tax credit for educational expenses. In the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999, this tax credit is extended to parents in Enterprise Zones and Enterprise Communities to cover the cost of textbooks, tuition, tutors, computer software, and other needs that will increase a child's learning opportunities. Thanks to the education tax credit included in this bill, low income parents will have far more resources to educate their children from kindergarten through high school.

Another important component of this bill grants Opportunity Scholarships to children of the most needy parents. Under this Opportunity Scholarship Program, states and localities would be able to use existing federal funds to run a low-income public and private school choice program. Scholarships would be directed to students whose families are at or below 185 percent of the poverty rate. The scholarships would be used to cover the cost of tuition at any public or private school lo-

cated in an Enterprise Zone or Enterprise Community. At least \$310 million will be used for this scholarship program.

It is time to give children in the poorest communities a meaningful chance to learn and excel. Bureaucrats in Washington cannot meet this need; those who make a real difference in the lives of these kids are parents and local community leaders. With the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999, we will provide poor parents the resources and choices to educate their children. Furthermore, we will liberate low-income communities to create schools where children have a true chance to learn and rise up from their challenges before them.

I urge all Members who are interested in lifting children up from poverty to join me in supporting the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999.

COLONEL THOMAS S. LAMPLEY,
USAF—A CAREER OF SERVICE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to recognize Colonel Tom Lampley, USAF, who will retire tomorrow from the U.S. Air Force after 29 years of service. This Member has had the pleasure of working and traveling with Col. Lampley in this Member's capacity as Chairman of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (formerly the North Atlantic Assembly). Col. Lampley has been serving as the Chief, Congressional Action Division, Air Force Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, directly supporting the interaction between the Air Force's senior leaders and Members of Congress. In recognition of Col. Lampley's exemplary record of service, this Member would like to congratulate him upon his retirement and take this opportunity to acknowledge Col. Lampley's credibility and good will for which the Air Force and the Department of Defense will long reap the benefits of his tenure.

Colonel Thomas S. Lampley was born in Washington, DC on 31 August 1947. He attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and received his commission upon graduation in 1970. Col. Lampley also received a Master of Science degree in business management from Troy State University in Alabama.

As a master navigator with over 2,200 flying hours, Col. Lampley has served in numerous flying positions including 225 combat sorties in the F-4 Phantom as a forward air controller in Southeast Asia. Out of the cockpit, he has served in staff positions at Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, the Pentagon and Headquarters Tactical Air Command. Col. Lampley is an experienced commander, having commanded a flying training squadron at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the 14th Support Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Prior to moving to his present position, Col. Lampley also commanded the 42nd Support Group, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and subsequently became the Vice Commander, 42nd Air Base Wing, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. In addition, Col. Lampley has received the following major awards and decorations:

Legion of Merit;
Distinguished Flying Cross with one oak leaf cluster;
Defense Meritorious Service Medal;
Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters;
Air Medal with 23 oak leaf clusters; and
Air Force Commendation Medal.

Again, this Member wants to offer his congratulations to Col. Tom Lampley for his fine record of service to the Air Force, to the Department of Defense, to the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, and to our country.

Colonel Lampley, you have performed your duties as an officer in the United States armed forces in a manner which reflects the best traditions and principles of the U.S. Air Force and our nation.

TRIBUTE TO AN UNCOMMON LEGACY FOUNDATION'S FIFTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF WOMEN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in a special tribute to An Uncommon Legacy Foundation, Inc. ("Legacy"). On Saturday, April 24, 1999, Legacy will host its Fifth Annual Celebration of Women at the home of Hilary Rosen and Elizabeth Birch. At the event, Legacy will honor Sheila Alexander-Reid, founder of Women in the Life, Inc. and publisher of Women in the Life Magazine. Legacy will also present grants to the Lesbian Health and Wellness Network ("LHWN") and After Stonewall and scholarships to three outstanding students: Katie Batza, Amanda M. Gunn, and Suzanne Degges White.

An Uncommon Legacy Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to enhancing the visibility, strength, and vitality of the lesbian community. Legacy invests in the community by awarding scholarships to students with leadership potential and by awarding grants to fund projects and organizations that contribute to the lesbian community's health, education, and culture.

This year, Legacy will honor Sheila Alexander-Reid, who has made it her mission to empower lesbians of all colors. Women in the Life, Inc. is an events management company based in Washington, D.C., and it was honored last year with a prestigious grant from Avon and the Mautner Project to promote breast cancer awareness in the black lesbian community. Legacy will also award grants to the Lesbian Health and Wellness Network, a multi-disciplinary coalition of over 125 lesbian and lesbian competent providers serving the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. area. This grant will enable LHWN to improve access to health care for women in the lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities. Legacy will also award a grant to After Stonewall, a 90-minute documentary airing nationally on PBS on June 23, 1999. This important documentary chronicles the lesbian and gay experience since the 1969 Stonewall riots—the historic moment 30 years ago which gave birth to the modern gay and lesbian civil rights movement. Finally, Legacy will award scholarships to three outstanding students: Katie Batza, who attends